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Application for Patent on "An Integrated System For Shellfish Production" 9/10/02 6:52 AM Russell P Davis (757)340-0651
Page 1 of 102

Inventor Name:	Russell Patton Davis USA						
Citizenship:							
Inventor Residence and Correspondence Address:	613 Mango Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23452 http://www.Shellfish-Unlimited.com Russell P Davis@Shellfish-Unlimited.com						
FAX RECEIVED FFICIAL SEP 1 0 2002 GROUP 3600	AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR SHELLFISH PRODUCTION: Encompassing Hatchery, Nursery, Grow-out, Brood-stock Conditioning and Market Conditioning Phases; also Water Treatment, Food Supplement, Propulsion, Anchoring, Security, and Devices for the Integration of Neighborhood Values and Shellfish Production.						
Provisional Application:	JUNE 28, 2000 60/214,458 SEPT 08, 2000 60/232,079 OCT 02, 2000 60/237,033 DEC 01, 2000 60/250,389 FEB 02, 2001 60/263,820						
Application filing Date:	JUNE 26, 2001 09/891,757						
Art Unit: 3643	Examiner: Price, Richard Thomas, Jr. FAX 703-305-7687 V.703-308-2694/Sup. Peter Poo 308-2574						
PROSECUTION HISTORY: Responsive Claim Amendment Date Sept 16, 2002	Mr. Tom Price: In response to the restriction requirement of 08/26/2003 #3807, the Applicant provisionally elects group IX in claim 9 with traverse via the additional Generic & Linking Claim 40 on page 80.  If this response is deemed non-responsive						
	please grant an additional month to respond. Please bill as needed according						

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	to meet the required fees. Forms PTO-2038 & PTO/SB17 are enclosed.
No Attorney or Agent	No Government Agency has any ownership interest in this patent
DECLARATION & Small Entity Election:	I, Russell Patton Davis, am the sole inventor of this "INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR SHELLFISH PRODUCTION: Encompassing Hatchery, Nursery, Grow-out, Brood-stock Conditioning and Market
FAX RECEIVED	Conditioning Phases; also Water Treatment, Food Supplement, Propulsion, Anchoring Security, and Devices for the Integration of Neighborhood Values
SEP 1 0 2002	and Shellfish Production.". The contents herein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. The applicant is a small entity under the rules of the PTO.
GROUP 3600	Signed: // 2002  Dated: 9/10/2002

# OFFICIAL

#### TITLE OF THE INVENTION

An Integrated System for Shellfish Production:

Encompassing Hatchery, Nursery, Grow-out, Brood-stock Conditioning and Market Conditioning Phases; also Water Treatment, Food Supplement, Propulsion, Anchoring, Security, and Devices for the Integration of Neighborhood Values and Shellfish Production.

#### **BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Shellfish aquaculture is a rapidly growing field that is increasingly constrained by the scarcity and cost of land based hatchery and nursery operations. The high capital and operating costs associated with these facilities along with their vulnerability to instances of low water quality and the scarcity of potential locations motivated the inception of this design. The strategies employed by this system—have been borrowed from various species and the community interactions while the devices and processes to implement the strategies and integrate them into my political context are my own invention.

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blooms suppressed and the canal turned into a highly productive area for shellfish reproduction. This process is effected by the release of air bubbles from the bottom of the channel such that it creates a continual upwelling and current.

#### **GENERIC CLAIM 40**

I claim as my invention "An Integrated System for Shellfish Production:

Encompassing Hatchery, Nursery, Grow-out, Brood-stock Conditioning and Market Conditioning Phases; also Water Treatment, Food Supplement, Propulsion, Anchoring, Security, and Devices for the Integration of Neighborhood Values and Shellfish Production.

The general claim, conceptual invention and overall design paradigm behind of this invention of "An Integrated System of Shellfish Production" takes the simplex method of optimizing production processes and uses that algorithm to enumerate and rank the constraints on shellfish production, each of those constraints is the subject of a search in the domain of nature for instances where evolution has succeeded in relaxing that constraint for some species by some device - each behavioral or physiological device is contemplated so that it inspires the invention of human implementable devices that may be applied to that vector in the culture of shellfish. This systematic traversal of the problem domain (shellfish production) has produced the invention of this "Integrated System of Shellfish Production". The existing shellfish industry can only be completely re-invented. The orders of magnitude increase in productivity in several root vectors will graduate the industry from the sometimes less-than-civil huntergatherer stage into a terra-forming stage were the geology of the earth itself is compassionately sheparded. The inventive conceptual methodology resulted in this "Integrated System of Shellfish Production". Its parts are not subject to restriction and divisional patent as the inventions are not independent inventions according to MPEP 808.01 as the claims are connected by design, operation, and effect. There is only one art unit to examine this patent application. The parts are also linked as follows:

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 16 and 31 address distinct devices in the integrated system that emulate the various configurations of and benefits derived from fish gill parasitism in the glocidian nursery strategy of the freshwater pearly mussel. The claim 8 device additionally benefits from a tidal current management configuration derived from a soft coral called the sea pen or sea plume.

Claims 16 and 33 address devices within the Integrated System that emulate the marsupium of larvipaous (ovolarviparous) shellfish.

Claim 23, 32, 34, 35 and 36 are devices needed to implement the device of claim 33. Claim 23's design was inspired by the mangrove tree propagule and the stinging nettles nematocyst. Claim 32's design was inspired by an egg raft that was probably produced by the marsh grass snail, *Littorina irrorata*. Claim 34's design was inspired by the 'rafting' behavior sometimes displayed by planktonic shellfish veligars in which the veligars appear to act as a school and form a vortex by their concerted motion that appears to act as a pump so that they might harvest more plankton from more water than the could achieve by individual action alone. This rafting behavior is not continuous and may occur only when food density drops or the oxygen gradient in the water makes the air-water interface hugging and surface water harvesting behavior advantageous.

Claim 21 is needed to implement Claim 32.

Claims 36, 37, 38 are process devices that allow humans to emulate ways in which shellfish modify their environment so that the shellfish become even more prosperous and resilient to misfortunes of weather.

Claim 17 is a process device that gives humans the ability to emulate ways in which weather and marine life reworks fine sediment in ways that are advantageous to the shellfish's health and pr sperity.

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Claim 24 is a process device that gives humans the ability to emulate ways in which the benefits of shellfish exposure to atmospheric exposure may be had while avoiding the detriments of atmospheric exposure.

Claim 39 remedies the pattern in estuary canal building where shore-margin construction creates environmental niches the are initially very attractive to shellfish yet the burst of vitality (which is highly valuable to the property owners) is naturally unsustainable and that has produced much in the way of counter productive blame making. Claim 39 is the result of the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production" constraint discovery and management. One of those constraints is political. The history of blame-laying without knowledge has made many waterfront land owners fearful of shellfish production. This must be changed for the implementation not to be hindered politically. Rapport and trust must be established with its neighbors on the waterfront. This is essential and integral to the successful implementation of the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production". Boundless ecological enhancement and restoration and the removal of causes for false blaming is the good neighbor strategy needed to achieve that rapport. The canals present many square feet of very desirable and scarce structural niches whose ecological value and vitality has been limited by transient moments of low oxygen and water flow. The invention of claim 39 acts to consistently remove that transient constraint for those canal owners that wish to do so. If any chose to do so, the "stickiness" in the blame on the remainder will diminish. Hopefully, this demonstrated willingness to be a good and useful neighbor will win many good neighbors in return. This claim addresses a distinct yet integral product of this "Integrated System of Shellfish Production". Outside of the context of the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production"s need for neighborliness the claim has insufficient economic value and the invention would be lost as no one has enough economic incentive to offer and publish the product.

Claims 10, 11, 17, 18 and 19 address the terra-forming products of the integrated system of shellfish production. These claims address distinct yet integral products that cannot exist outside of the contest provided by the orders of magnitude increase in productivity within this "Integrated System of Shellfish Production".

Claim 22 intensifies the existing selection strategies of shellfish by amplifying the geochemical detriments to the shellfish immune strategies. Those c-lectin and mucus based strategies have been suitable for the geologically recent past but given the increased concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide, increase frequency of storm sized waves in the summertime and increased shoreline erosion due to rising sealevels, greater llexibility in immune strategies will be needed by the shellfish if they are to prosper in these otherwise suitable niches. Claim 22's process device raises that challenge and selection pressure to match the increased breeding productivity and resulting opportunities for selecting from great genetic diversity. Without the context of the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production" where it is reasonable to manage a twenty-five billion veligar spawn, increasing larval selection pressure to the point where only one in one million survive would be equivalent to killing all the larvae. This selection process only has value within the context and breeding capacity achieved within the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production".

Claim 20 is the functional inverse of Claim 22 and is integral to the system in its market and broodstock conditioning phases.

Claims 12,13, 14, 15 and 29 addresses the needs integral to the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production" where the high number of shellfish at a high density requires an inexpensive method of supplementing shellfish feed and enhancing the immune competence of the shellfish. If these distinct features where removed from the system the shellfish grown in it would face a greater risks of starvation stress and disease. Moreover the great number of shellfish coming to market from the system would tend to crash the market unless their quality was known to be greater than that from conventional production. The features offered to the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production" by these claims, and Claim 6, are so essential, integral, and distinct that the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production" would likely be a financial failure without them.

Claims 25, 26, 27, 28 and 30 are process devices that enable the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production" to be integrated with the culture of a symbiotic cohort of species teffect great economy and convenience that cannot be

## Application for Patent on "An Integrated System For Shellfish Production" 9/10/02 7:13 AM Russell P Davis (757)340-0651 Page 82 of 102

achieved without that Integration. Moreover the swam spawning enabled by the process device of Claim 31 and 33 would be much less economic and have much greater capital requirements and much greater risk to that capital without the integration of Claims 25, 26, 27, 28 and 30 into the "Integrated System of Shellfish Production".